

OFFICE OF

SB 1130

THE GOVERNOR STATE OF OKLAHOMA

OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLA

TIME SIGNED:

TO THE HONORABLE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE AND MEMBERS OF THE OKLAHOMA SENATE FIRST REGULAR SESSION OF THE FIFTY-NINTH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE

ENROLLED SENATE BILL NO. 1130:

Pursuant to the authority vested in me by Section 12 of Article VI of the Oklahoma Constitution to approve or disapprove any appropriation bills, or any item therein contained, I have vetoed Enrolled Senate Bill 1130.

Enrolled Senate Bill 1130 would sweep \$600,000,000.00 in enhanced FMAP funds from the Oklahoma Health Care Authority's Disbursing Fund and appropriate it to the Oklahoma Health Care Authority, purportedly to cover a portion of the agency's FY-24 appropriation.

The bill is imprudent. Right now, the Health Care Authority is disenrolling more than 300,000 Oklahomans who were added to Medicaid during the COVID-19 pandemic, but who no longer qualify. At the very least, then, decisions to pull this surplus from the Health Care Authority should be delayed until 2024, or after the unwinding period.

Additionally, this bill would punish the Health Care Authority for its fiscal conservatism and wise stewardship of taxpayer dollars. That's simply wrong.

Finally, enhanced FMAP funds should be used to finance strategic health care initiatives and to make investments that will yield better health outcomes for generations of Oklahomans, not to do the ordinary work of the Health Care Authority.

Because the bill is imprudent, would punish the Health Care Authority for wise stewardship of taxpayer dollars, and because the long-term, strategic value of this appropriation has not been clearly established, I have vetoed Enrolled Senate Bill 1130.

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA

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OKLAHOMA SECRETARY OF STATE